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Title: TELECOMMUNICATIONS MAST INSTALLATION

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified patent application.

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) A telecommunications mast installation comprising:

a mast;

a telecommunications antenna supported by the mast; and

a foundation structure supporting the mast;

the foundation structure including an enclosed chamber defining an internal space, and electronic equipment within the space for operating the antenna;

the foundation structure providing access to the internal space when the chamber is at least partially underground.

2. (Amended) An installation according to claim 1 wherein the foundation structure provides access to the internal space when the chamber is fully underground.

3. (Amended) An installation according to claim 1 wherein the mast comprises a foot at a lower end of the mast, and the chamber further comprises a base which supports the foot and provides a structural foundation for the mast.

4. (Amended) An installation according to claim 3, further comprising a seat in or on the base, wherein the foot of the mast is seated on the seat, the seat restraining lateral movements of the foot of the mast at the base.

5. (Amended) An installation according to claim 4 wherein the chamber comprises lateral support means to restrain lateral movements of the mast at a position above the base.

6. (Amended) An installation according to claim 5 wherein the chamber further comprises a roof with an opening therein through which the mast passes.

7. (Amended) An installation according to claim 6 further comprising a sleeve about a lower end of the mast, the sleeve being received by the seat and passing through the opening in the roof.

8. (Amended) An installation according to claim 1 wherein the chamber comprises a roof, and the mast further comprises a foot at a lower end of the mast which is connected rigidly to the roof of the chamber.

9. (Amended) An installation according to claim 1 further comprising ventilation or air conditioning means for the internal space of the chamber.

10. (Amended) An installation according to claim 9 further comprising a cubicle mounted on a roof of the chamber above ground level and communicating with the interior of the chamber, wherein the ventilation or air conditioning means is provided in the cubicle.

11. (Amended) An installation according to claim 9 wherein the ventilation means comprises a ventilation circuit which includes an air intake on the mast, an air exhaust at an elevated position on the mast, air intake ducting leading from the intake to the interior of the chamber and air exhaust ducting leading from the interior of the chamber to the air exhaust.

12. (Amended) An installation according to claim 11 wherein the air exhaust is located towards a top of the mast and includes an air extractor.

13. (Amended) An installation according to claim 11 wherein the mast comprises a hollow monopole mast having an interior, the air intake is an opening in a wall of the mast and the air intake and air exhaust ducting is concealed in the interior of the mast.

14. (Amended) An installation according to claim 1 further comprising a personnel entrance cubicle on a roof of the chamber and a personnel access passage leading from the entrance cubicle to the internal space of the chamber.

15. (Amended) An installation according to claim 1 wherein the mast comprises a hollow monopole mast having an interior which extends into the chamber, and personnel access openings into the mast within the chamber, the personnel access openings and the interior of the mast providing a personnel access passage to the chamber.

16. (Amended) An installation according to claim 1 wherein the chamber is constructed of concrete.

17. (Amended) An installation according to claim 16 wherein the chamber is constructed at least partially of precast concrete.

18. (Amended) An installation according to claim 1 further comprising one or more transverse, electric light-supporting arms, each carried by the mast at an elevated position and electrical supply cables for each arm extending along the mast.

Please cancel Claims 19 and 20, and add new Claims 21 and 22.

21. (New) A telecommunications mast installation, comprising:
- a foundation structure;
 - a mast mounted on and supported by the foundation structure;
 - at least one antenna mounted to the mast;
 - the foundation structure including a hollow chamber defined by a base, a shell supported on and connected to the base, and a roof supported by and connected to the shell; and
 - a personnel access entrance to the chamber.
22. (New) A telecommunications mast installation, comprising:
- a foundation structure;
 - a mast mounted on and supported by the foundation structure;
 - the foundation structure including a hollow chamber defined by a base, one or more walls mounted to the base and a roof mounted to the one or more walls;
 - a personnel access entrance to the chamber;
 - air intake ducting in the mast communicating between an inlet in the mast and an interior of the chamber; and
 - air exhaust ducting communicating between the interior of the chamber and an outlet in the mast.

REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment places the claims in better condition for examination. No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX SHOWING MARKED-UP AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A telecommunications mast installation comprising:

a mast;

[supporting] a telecommunications antenna supported by the mast; and

a foundation structure supporting the mast[,];

the foundation structure [being in the form of] including an enclosed chamber [situated at least partially underground and] defining an internal space, and electronic equipment within the space for operating the antenna; [which is accessible to personnel and which accommodates electronic equipment associated with operation of the antenna]

the foundation structure providing access to the internal space when the chamber is at least partially underground.

2. (Amended) An installation according to claim 1 wherein the foundation structure provides access to the internal space when the chamber is fully underground.

3. (Amended) An installation according to claim 1 [either of the preceding claims] wherein the mast [has] comprises a foot at [its] a lower end of the mast, and the chamber further comprises a base which supports the foot and provides [which is supported on a base of the chamber, the base acting as] a structural foundation for the mast.

4. (Amended) An installation according to claim 3, further comprising a seat in or on the base, wherein the foot of the mast is seated on [a] the seat [in or on the base], the seat restraining lateral movements of the foot of the mast at the base.

5. (Amended) An installation according to claim 4 wherein the chamber [includes] comprises lateral support means to restrain lateral movements of the mast at a position above the base.

6. (Amended) An installation according to claim 5 wherein the chamber [has] further comprises a roof with an opening therein through which the mast passes.

7. (Amended) An installation according to claim 6 further comprising a sleeve about a lower end of the mast, the sleeve being received by the seat and passing through the opening in the roof.

8. (Amended) An installation according to [either one of claims 1 or 2] claim 1 wherein the chamber comprises a roof, and the mast [has] further comprises a foot at [its] a lower end of the mast which is connected rigidly to [a] the roof of the chamber.

9. (Amended) An installation according to [any one of the preceding claims and] claim 1 further comprising ventilation or air conditioning means for the [interior] internal space of the chamber.

10. (Amended) An installation according to claim 9 further comprising [ventilation or air conditioning means housed in] a cubicle mounted on a roof of the chamber above ground level and communicating with the interior of the chamber, wherein the ventilation or air conditioning means is provided in the cubicle.

11. (Amended) An installation according to claim 9 wherein the ventilation means comprises a ventilation circuit which includes an air intake on the mast [above ground], an air exhaust at an elevated position on the mast, air intake ducting leading from the intake to the interior of the chamber and air exhaust ducting leading from the interior of the chamber to the air exhaust.

12. (Amended) An installation according to claim 11 wherein the air exhaust is located towards [the] a top of the mast and includes an air extractor.

13. (Amended) An installation according to [either one of claims 11 or 12] claim 11 wherein the mast [is] comprises a hollow monopole mast having an interior, the air intake is an opening in a wall of the mast and the air intake and air exhaust ducting is concealed in the interior of the mast.

14. (Amended) An installation according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1 further comprising a personnel entrance cubicle on a roof of the chamber [above ground] and a personnel access passage leading from the entrance cubicle to the [interior] internal space of the chamber.

15. (Amended) An installation according to [any one of claims 1 to 13] claim 1 wherein the mast [is] comprises a hollow monopole mast having an interior which extends into the chamber, and [which has] personnel access openings into the mast [above ground and] within the chamber, the personnel access openings and the interior of the mast providing a personnel access passage to the chamber.

16. (Amended) An installation according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein the chamber is constructed of concrete.

17. (Amended) An installation according to claim 16 wherein the chamber is constructed at least partially of precast concrete [construction].

18. (Amended) An installation according to [any one of the preceding claims wherein the mast carries] claim 1 further comprising one or more transverse, electric light-supporting arms, each carried by the mast at an elevated position and electrical supply cables for [the or] each arm extending along the mast.